

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

<p>Applicant(s): Oleg S. FISHMAN et al.</p> <p>Serial No.: 10/823,856</p> <p>Filed: April 14, 2004</p> <p>Title: DIRECTIONAL SOLIDIFICATION OF A METAL</p> <p>Attorney Docket No.: 1946-010US</p>	<p>Group Art Unit: 2832</p> <p>Examiner: Tu Ba HOANG</p>
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Mail Stop AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

To the Commissioner of Patents:

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- ☐ under 37 CFR 1.97(b), or  
(Within three months of filing national application; or date of entry of international application; or before mailing date of first office action on the merits; whichever occurs last)
- ☒ under 37 CFR 1.97(c) together with either a:
  - ☐ Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e), or
  - ☒ a \$180.00 fee under 37 CFR 1.17(p), or  
(After the CFR 1.97(b) time period, but before final action or notice of allowance, whichever occurs first)
- ☐ under 37 CFR 1.97(d) together with a:
  - ☐ Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e), and
  - ☐ a \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).  
(Filed after final action or notice of allowance, whichever occurs first, but before payment of the issue fee)

☒ Applicant(s) submit herewith Form PTO 1449-Information Disclosure Citation together with copies, of patents (except US patents), publications or other information of which applicant(s) are aware, which applicant(s) believe(s) may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56.

The relevance of the attached references is that this is the closest art of which Applicant is aware. Applicant submits that the above references taken alone or in combination neither anticipate nor render obvious the present invention. Consideration of the foregoing in relation to this application is respectfully requested.

It is requested that the information disclosed herein be made of record in this application.

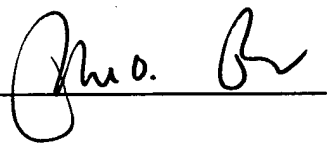
The Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 502435 (Indel, Inc.) for the 37 CFR 1.17(p) \$180.00 Information Disclosure Statement filing fee, and any other fee associated with filing this filing.

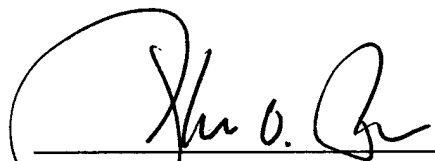
Respectfully submitted,

I hereby certify that this Correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope address to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or the correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO, on the date indicated below.

Date of Deposit: September 5, 2006

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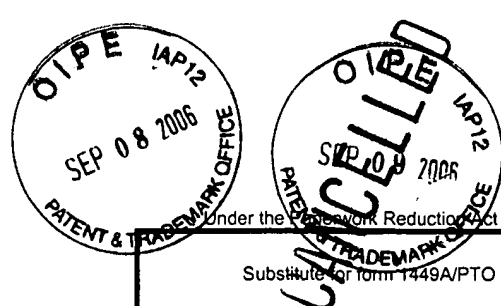
Philip O. Post

Attorney for Applicant(s)

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Date: September 5, 2006

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## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

### Complete if Known

Application Number	10/823,856
Filing Date	4/14/2004
First Named Inventor	Oleg S. FISHMAN
Art Unit	2832
Examiner Name	Tu Ba HOANG
Attorney Docket Number	1946-010US

### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	D1	US-5,059,762	10-22-1991	SIMCOCK	
	D2	US-5,349,167	09-20-1994	SIMCOCK	
	D3	US-5,523,631	606-04-1996	FISHMAN ET AL.	
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### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				

Examiner Signature YY		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of US PTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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